

DOCKET NO: 156756US0CIP (3295-0027-0-CIP)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

KANIA, BRUCE G.

SERIAL NO: 09/418,505

FILED: OCTOBER 15, 1999

FOR: GEL AND CUSHIONING DEVICES
USING THE GEL

: EXAMINER: PREBILIC, PAUL B.

: GROUP ART UNIT: 3738

DECLARATION UNDER 37 CFR § 1.132

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

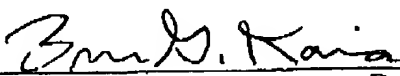
Now comes Bruce G. Kania who declares and states that:

- (1) I am an amputee, and I am the sole inventor of the invention now claimed in the above-identified application.
- (2) I have read the specification of the above-identified application, and the currently pending claims.
- (3) The polymeric material utilized in the above-identified application, as exemplified for example in the Examples of the above-identified application, is configured to form a substantially air-tight seal on the limb of a wearer when donned.
- (4) Prototypical coverings according to the above-identified application, which is configured to form a substantially air-tight seal on the limb of a wearer when donned, can be inflated with air and, once sealed, can hold air.
- (5) A prototypical covering according to the above-identified application which is configured to form a substantially air-tight seal on the limb of a wearer when

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- donned, and is capable of being stretched, typically has a distal radius of 3/4" - 4" or whatever is somewhat undersized for the wearer, and is donned by rolling the cushion liner onto the amputation stump with stretching.
- (6) It has been my experience that, after exercise, when I remove a covering according to the invention the interior can be wet from perspiration, but the exterior is dry.
- (7) One of knowledge in this area would thus understand that the coverings of my invention, as described, are inherently configured to contact the skin when worn and to form a substantially air-tight seal on the limb of a wearer when donned. While this was counterintuitive for an amputation covering, it provides excellent results.
- (8) The undersigned declarant further declares that all statements made herein are of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of this application or any patent issuing thereon.
- (9) Further, deponent saith not.

Bruce G. Kania		6-17-04
Typewritten Name	Signature	Date